

Old Vicarage Day Nursery

112 Hartington Street, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, LA14 5SS



Inspection date	12 May 2016
Previous inspection date	14 May 2015

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision			
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The provider, managers and staff team are committed to improving outcomes for children, parents and the provision as a whole. They have implemented and evaluated plans to ensure that all actions identified at the previous inspection have been successfully addressed.
- Overall, the quality of teaching and assessment is good. The manager is well qualified and she uses her skills effectively to provide good leadership. Staff work well as a team. They create stimulating play areas to support children's developing interests and enable them to practise skills across all areas of learning.
- Staff work closely with parents. They gather detailed information about children's care routines and needs and the achievements and the progress that individual children make in their learning. Staff use this to inform planning and promote children's needs and interests at the nursery and at home.
- Children are interested and motivated to learn. Staff effectively observe and assess children in their learning. This helps to ensure that children make good progress from their starting points and any gaps in learning are closed quickly.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not make best use of opportunities to extend younger children's exploratory play and encourage them to independently investigate different tools and materials.
- Performance management does not currently provide opportunities for staff to reflect on their teaching skills and share best practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- make more-effective use of opportunities and younger children's exploratory play experiences to extend their skills and enhance their learning
- strengthen the arrangements for performance management to enable staff to better understand what they need to do to raise the standard of teaching further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as, the nursery's self-evaluation, policies and procedures and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Janice Caryl

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Effective improvements have been made since the last inspection. Staff deployment is managed more successfully to help ensure that the needs of all children are effectively met. Policies are reviewed when required and adapted to help make sure that procedures are robustly adhered to. Staff supervisions take place regularly and staff training has been intensive. This is having a positive impact on outcomes for children. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers and staff have a good understanding of what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Risk assessments are used well to minimise hazards to children. Thorough recruitment and induction procedures ensure that staff are suitable to work with children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's learning effectively. They encourage children to develop the skills they need for their future learning and school. Staff know children's interests and provide learning experiences that complement their learning at home. Older children are self-motivated and use the outdoor space well. Staff teach children to negotiate and take turns as they play games together. They provide opportunities for children to role play, extending children's communication and language skills. Younger children develop early mathematical skills and enjoy learning about space and shape. For example, staff encourage children to follow their finger as they trace the shape outline. They help children to match colours and shapes and they apply their learning well as they use shape sorters. Younger babies take great delight in exploring natural materials and viewing themselves in mirrors and other reflective materials. This helps children develop self-awareness as they look and point at their features with staff.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are sensitive to babies and children's emotional needs and follow their care routines well to promote their good health and welfare. Children form strong attachments with staff, settling quickly and developing a strong sense of well-being and belonging. Staff are good role models and maintain consistent boundaries. Children's behaviour is good. They understand right from wrong and learn to take turns, be polite and have respect for each other. Children are encouraged to be physically active, explore the environment freely and take small risks. For example, children learn to be careful and hold the rail when descending and ascending the stairs. Staff are vigilant and ensure children's safety is maintained, while teaching them rules and how to be aware of their limitations.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in learning. Children of all ages are motivated, enthusiastic learners and are confident to try new things. They develop a sense of well-being and learn to take responsibility. Children learn about the wider world, sing songs and take part in cultural events. They show interest in numbers and grouping. Children concentrate well, counting their steps and learning about time in a favourite game. Children have fun in their play and are supported well in preparation for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	317407
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1044929
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	131
Number of children on roll	203
Name of provider	Hollingarh Limited
Date of previous inspection	14 May 2015
Telephone number	01229 813 100

Old Vicarage Day Nursery was registered in 1998. The nursery employs 38 members of childcare staff. Of these, 22 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3, including the manager who holds early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children who have special educational needs.

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